



STATE OF WASHINGTON
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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April 3, 2006

LISA MCSHANE
CITIZENS PROTECTING OUR WATER AND FORESTS
PMB 224 - 1700 7TH AVE STE 116
SEATTLE WA 98101

Subject – Complaint Filed Against Doug Sutherland Campaign - PDC Case No. 05-079

Dear Ms. McShane:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) staff has completed its investigation of your complaint received September 27, 2004 and updated October 18, 2004, alleging that the 2004 Doug Sutherland Campaign for Commissioner of Public Lands failed to disclose the required employer and occupation information for all of its contributors who donated more than \$100 in the aggregate, and that the Sutherland campaign was receiving the campaign management services of Todd Myers without paying for his services or reporting an in-kind contribution for his services. I apologize for the length of time it has taken to complete this investigation. The length of the investigation was due in part to the size of the campaign and difficulties in obtaining information from the campaign's treasurer.

Your complaint was reviewed in light of the following statutes and administrative rule:

RCW 42.17.080 and .090 require candidates to file timely, accurate reports of contribution and expenditure activities.

WAC 390-16-034 requires each report of contributions to include, in addition to the name and address of each person who has made one or more contributions in the aggregate amount of more than one hundred dollars, the occupation and the name and address of the person's employer.

You alleged that the 2004 Doug Sutherland campaign failed to disclose the required employer and occupation information for all of its contributors who donated more than \$100 in the aggregate during the campaign. We found that:

- Doug Sutherland was a candidate for re-election to the position of Commissioner of Public Lands in the 2004 primary and general elections.
- In June 2004, the Sutherland campaign had reported the required employer and occupation information for 91 percent of individual donors who had donated



more than \$100 in the aggregate. By the time the complaint was filed, the compliance rate had dropped to 88 percent.

- Following receipt of your complaint, the Sutherland campaign treasurer, Rhonda Reinke, contacted contributors who had not provided the required information. She obtained additional employer and occupation information, and by the time of the general election, had achieved a compliance rate of nearly 90 percent. Additional requests for employer and occupation information were made, and by the close of the campaign, the campaign's compliance rate was at 95 percent.

PDC staff is of the opinion that the campaign's reporting, with respect to the requirement to report employer and occupation information, was in substantial compliance, and that no enforcement is warranted.

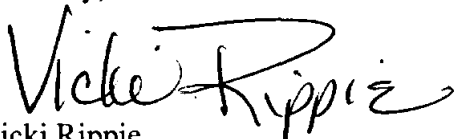
You alleged that the Sutherland campaign was receiving the campaign management services of Todd Myers without paying for his services or reporting an in-kind contribution for his services. We found that:

- Todd Myers was a paid campaign manager for the Sutherland campaign. He began working for the campaign in late August 2004 and was working full-time by mid-September. He continued to provide campaign management services through the remainder of the campaign.
- Mr. Myers was paid \$5,000 on October 5, 2004 for his work in late August and September. He was paid \$5,000 on November 15, 2004 for his work in October and early November. Finally, he was paid a \$4,000 bonus on December 20, 2004.
- Mr. Myers was paid a total of \$14,000. He billed the campaign \$10,000 and was paid for his services plus a \$4,000 bonus. At no time did Mr. Myers provide in-kind services to the campaign.

After a careful review of the alleged violations and relevant facts, we have concluded our investigation and, with the concurrence of the Chair of the Public Disclosure Commission, I am dismissing your complaint against the 2004 Doug Sutherland campaign. Mr. Sutherland is being notified of this dismissal by separate letter.

If you have questions, please contact Phil Stutzman, Director of Compliance, at (360) 664-8853, toll free at 1-877-601-2828 or by email at pstutzman@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Vicki Rippie
Executive Director